

EXCISE CASES COMPOUNDED—1112 AND 1113

51. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan: Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the number of Excise cases compounded by the officers of that Department in 1112 and 1113, M. E.;

(b) the total amount realised by the Government from parties (offenders) as fines when such cases were so compounded?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: (a) 510 in 1112.

466 in 1113.

(b) Rs. 2,215 in 1112.

Rs. 2,671 in 1113.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan: Has any amount out of the fine collected been given as rewards to the Excise Officers?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: A portion will be given as rewards. It is only after the collection of the fine that the question of giving rewards will be considered.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty: May we know what share of the fines collected will be given as rewards?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: It does not generally exceed one-third.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan: Is any share given to the Officers who levy the fine?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: It is the Excise Officers who detect cases and a portion will be given to them. But as a matter of fact no subordinate of the department levies the fine.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan: May I know, who levies the fine?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: The Commissioner.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon: So one-third the commission does not go to the Commissioner.

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: No, no.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty: May I know who imposes the fine? Is it the Commissioner or the Circle Inspector?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: The Circle Inspector recommends and the Commissioner imposes.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty: Does the Circle Inspector get any share?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: In cases detected by a Circle Inspector, if he deserves any reward, he is given.

Dr. A. R. Menon: Does the Commissioner follow his recommendations, invariably?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: Generally he follows. But if any alteration has to be made, he makes it.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar: What is the nature of cases that are usually compounded?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: Illicit tapping of trees and illicit distillation.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty: What is the principle underlying the reward?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: The principle has been outlined in the Excise Manual.

Rama Varmha Tampuran: It is to encourage detection work.

Mr. Puthoor Achyuta Menon: Is it the practice to give rewards to private individuals for detection work?

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan: Do the Inspectors of Excise get any reward?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: Yes, in cases detected by them.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan: Was it a practice before the reorganisation of the Excise Department to give such rewards to Inspectors?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: There were no Inspectors then. There were only Taluk Inspectors then.

Mr. Puthoor Achyuta Menon: May I know whether private individuals are paid rewards for detection work?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: I do not remember to have any recent instance where any private individual is given rewards.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar: Does not detection form generally a part of the duties of the Excise Inspectors? Is it then proper to give them this additional remuneration?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: In order to encourage detection, they should be given something.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty: Can't we stop this practice of detecting crimes on a commission basis? Has the Government any objection to put a stop to this practice?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar: We are not giving any commission.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan : What is the highest fine leviable by the Officers ?

Mr. C. V. Iyyu : Has Government any objection, even if there is no rule in the Excise Manual, to make provision to give private individuals also rewards for detection work ?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar : We have to see whether it is necessary to institute such a provision.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon : Is there analogous provision in the case of Forest Department and the Police Department ?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon : In the Forest Department also, rewards are paid for detection of crimes. Rewards are paid to deserving subordinates.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon : And in the case of Police Department ?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon : In the Police Department also, there is a like provision.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon : What is the practice in British India ?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon : The same.

Mr. M. K. Devassy : Has any maximum been fixed ?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar : One-third of the collection.

Mr. Puthoor Achyuta Menon : Is it not a matter of fact that in Police and Forest Departments, private individuals are paid for detection work ?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon : Yes.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty : Is it not only in exceptional cases that rewards are paid in Police Department ?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon : When they deserve, we pay.

TRAVANCORE EXCISE RESERVE PEONS—COMPLAINTS AGAINST

52. Mr. A. V. Moothedan : Will the Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to the news published by the correspondent from Koratty to the 'Malabar Mail' dated 9th Mithunam 1113 regarding the frequent assaults committed by the Travancore Excise Reserve Peons on innocent persons residing at the border land in Cochin ?

Mr. K. M. Subramania Ayyar : Yes. There were complaints from other people also in the same matter. On